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CONTENTS

USSR-CEMA TRADE

Aspects of Agriculture in European CEMA Countries Discussed (M. Ye. Bukh, L.V. Popova; IZVESTIYA AKADEMII NAUK SSSR--SERIYA EKONOMICHESKAYA, No 1, 1980)	1
--	---

TRADE WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

Sale of Licenses Viewed in Foreign Trade Context (S. Sokolov; KHOZYAYSTVO I PRAVO, No. 3, 1980)	15
--	----

Commentary Gainsays USSR Dependence on Western Trade (Gennadiy Pisarevskiy, NOVOSTI DAILY REVIEW, 8 Apr 80)	20
---	----

Mercury-Tainted Wheat for USSR Confiscated in Rouen (J.G. (possibly Jacqueline Grapin); LE MONDE, 17 Apr 80)	22
--	----

Briefs

British Firm's Representation	24
FRG Firm's Representation	24
Austrian Ladies' Footwear	24
Finnish Cranes	24
Old Aluminum Supplied	24
Chemical Deliveries	25
Soviet-Finnish Talks	25
French Measuring Device	25
French, Swedish Pipe	25
Belgian Sheet Steel	25
French Cable Ordered	25
Milling Machine Ordered	25

CONTENTS (Continued)

TRADE WITH LDC's

Soviet Trade With Socialist Countries, LDC's Increasing (I. Kapranov; EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA, No 15, 1980)	26
--	----

Briefs

Truck, Car Exports	34
Trade With Singapore	34

ASPECTS OF AGRICULTURE IN EUROPEAN CEMA COUNTRIES DISCUSSED

Moscow IZVESTIYA AKADEMII NAUK SSSR--SERIYA EKONOMICHESKAYA in Russian
No 1, 1980 pp 96-106

[Article by M. Ye. Bukh and L. V. Popova: "Material Stimulation of Agricultural Production in the CEMA Countries"]

[Text] The article summarizes experience in material stimulation of the development of agriculture in the European CEMA countries over the last 5 to 10 years. Aspects of setting prices of the products of cropping and animal husbandry, subsidies, credit, taxes and remuneration are studied. Much attention is paid to the new factors which have arisen as agricultural production in the CEMA countries has undergone the transition to an industrial basis.

It continues to be one of the most urgent national economic problems in the CEMA countries to raise up their agriculture in every way. The communist and worker parties and the governments of the socialist countries take it for granted that this task can be performed only if agricultural production is converted on a broad scale to an industrial basis and if an economic mechanism for management of the sector and the entire agroindustrial complex (APK) is created to suit the stage of industrialization of agriculture.

The experience of all the socialist countries indicates that the successful functioning of the economic mechanism in the present stage depends to a considerable extent on maintaining the group and individual material motivation of the producers with respect to the results of their work. This motivation is achieved through material production and work incentives.

Over the last 5 or 10 years economic measures in these countries have been directed toward achieving optimum functioning of the economic mechanism in agricultural production and have embraced the system of price setting, subsidies, credit, taxes and remuneration--practically the entire set of elements that come under the head of material production incentives.

Purchase prices have very great importance in agriculture. They are used in assigning targets for the volume and composition of agricultural production and the growth rates of output and to ensure that enterprises are reimbursed for their expenditures and form the necessary capital for expanded reproduction. Their importance extends far outside the sector. They are an important indirect factor determining the degree of satisfaction of the material needs of the population. The level of purchase prices of farm products and of wholesale industrial prices of agricultural means of production and relations between them determine to a decisive degree the proportions in which agriculture and industry develop and the degree of material incentives of workers in the two sectors. Purchase prices are taking on particular importance now when agriculture is undergoing industrialization and national APK's are taking shape. Purchase prices are a most important social category, one which reflects relations between classes.

The following can be called new factors in the setting of prices in the agricultural sector in the CEMA countries which have undergone development in the seventies: enhancement of the role of objective bases in the setting of prices; reduction of the list of prices set centrally as compared to the sixties; the strengthening of their role as an incentive in raising product quality; the use of prices to stimulate specialization and concentration of agricultural production; enhancement of the role of accounting prices in connection with development of interfarm cooperation. Steady growth has been typical of the dynamic behavior of purchase prices.

Establishment of standard production cost and standard rate of profit are at present the principal basis for setting purchase prices of agricultural products in Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia. Production costs of medium-sized and better farms used as the basis for working out dynamic production cost standards over lengthy periods of time, are the basis of standards pertaining to use of means of production and remuneration of labor. The standard rate of profit is determined from the standard production cost. It is typical of all these countries that the rate of profit in cropping is higher than the average for the sector, while in animal husbandry it is lower. The rate of profit varies from product to product within these branches. For example, in Bulgaria the calculated rate of profit is 80-100 percent in production of grain crops, 30-40 percent in production of industrial crops, 36-50 percent for perennial plantations, 10-20 percent for vegetables, while for the products of animal husbandry it ranges from 5 percent in fattening beef cattle to 15 percent in poultry raising.¹

On the whole it is a constructive tendency to adopt the costs of the advanced farms as the basis for setting prices, since this serves the purpose of industrialization of production in the industry. At the same time the entire system of purchase prices is in need of further improvement.

First of all, in the European socialist countries records on production cost are not kept by all farms by any means. In the CEMA countries (aside

from the USSR) costing procedures are used, for example, by only 30-35 per cent of agricultural production cooperatives (SKhPK).² As a result the standard cost is determined for sample groups of enterprises.

Second, in the opinion of many economists an averaged production cost is not the best point of departure for setting a price, since in this case a material incentive to reduce the production cost is not created; the higher the production cost, the more net income is included in the planned price.

In the socialist countries various proposals have been advanced concerning the most expedient type of price for use in agriculture. They all reflect the general trends in development of economic theory in the field of planned socialist price setting.

The types of prices proposed differ from one another in the procedure for incorporation of net income. Aside from the price setting model which is based on the average production cost, models are possible in which net income can be included in the price on a proportional basis: in proportion to remuneration of labor; to the average weighted amount of fixed and working capital employed; partly to fixed and working capital and partly to remuneration of labor; to the rate of profit calculated in terms of the production cost and to all capital advanced. The last model comes closest to the optimum. In the context of full cost accounting its use ensures standard management of the farm with expanded reproduction of manpower and productive capital.

Table 1. Dynamic Behavior of Average Purchase Prices of the Principal Products of Cropping and Animal Husbandry (per quintal in national currency units), index numbers for 1976 (1960 = 100)

Product	Bulgaria*	Hungary	GDR	Poland	Czecho-slovakia
Wheat	102	130	115	157	130
Corn	105	143	155	No data	161
Sugar beets	108	137	142	100	132
Potatoes	210	243	255	225	174
Cattle--beef	132	265	177	188	159***
Hogs	140	159	160	175	121
Poultry	105	125	110	122**	No data
Eggs (in hundreds)	102	132	117	120	103
Milk	130	160	154	148	160

* For livestock raising the index number is for 1976, but 1965 was the base.

** Young chickens.

*** Beef, not including veal.

Source: Calculated from statistical yearbooks of the respective countries.

The procedure for setting purchase prices of agricultural products was amended in a number of socialist countries in the early seventies. The changes were manifested in the fact that the list of products whose prices are set centrally was reduced somewhat. For instance, in Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland and Czechoslovakia prices were set on all products by councils of ministers at the beginning of the seventies.³ Competent local authorities of people's assemblies or cooperative organizations set the prices of many farm products.

A steady rise in the level of purchase prices is typical of the socialist countries. In the 1960-1970 period the dual system of prices, which resulted in a sizable rise in their overall level, was abolished in these countries.⁴ The tendency for the uniform prices to rise has continued to be overcome in the dynamic behavior of these prices since that time.

Table 1 gives a general idea of the dynamic behavior of purchase prices over the last 15 years in the European CEMA countries aside from the USSR.

As we see, the largest rise of purchase prices for the products both of cropping and of animal husbandry in the CEMA countries occurred in Hungary and the GDR, and the lowest in Bulgaria. In the Soviet Union purchase prices of agricultural products began to rise beginning in 1953. In 1953 the index of these prices was 1.54 relative to 1952, and in 1959 it stood at 3.02. In the sixties and seventies prices of products purchased from kolkhozes and sovkhoses have continued to rise. Between 1964 and 1978 their level doubled.⁵ In accordance with the decisions of the July (1978) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, as of 1 January 1979 there was a further rise of purchase prices of milk, mutton, potatoes and certain vegetables.

The trend toward higher purchase prices in the socialist countries will obviously persist in the near future as well. Their overall level will rise mainly because of the rise of prices of the products of animal husbandry.

In the socialist countries the dynamic behavior of purchase prices is greatly affected by incentives for product quality. Of the countries under consideration here, Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia have the most sizable and differentiated system of premiums for product quality. In most countries the quality requirement is defined in state standards. The price premium or price reduction is determined in accordance with the grade of the product or by a special order.

If state quality standards have not been adopted for the products, business contracts on delivery stipulate the quality characteristics, and these have an effect on the level of prices.

The price level is also affected by bonuses to stimulate growth in the volume of agricultural products: in Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia they are paid for the planned growth of production as against the previous period; higher prices or price supplements are not established for above-plan

output; in Bulgaria, Romania and the USSR price premiums applied to the base price for production of above-plan output have been used up to the present time in addition to the base prices for a number of products important to the economy. The July (1978) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee pointed up the need for enhancement of the role of the price as a stimulator of the growth of production and, in particular, the need to draft more effective bonus measures.

It would seem that in the first group of countries adoption of strenuous plans is being stimulated more consistently. The bonuses are as a rule paid for the growth of production over the previous 2- or 3-year period.

In the GDR, Hungary and Czechoslovakia stimulation of the concentration and specialization of production has become widespread. Specialized farms are paid higher price supplements.

In recent years a number of new problems have arisen in the socialist countries in the field of setting the prices of agricultural products because of the accelerated development of interfarm cooperation and agroindustrial integration.

If we put aside the possibility of administrative pressure and subjective motives, it is material interest that moves people to participate in cooperation, and satisfying that interest depends to a considerable degree on scientifically sound prices regulating the value relations among the partners. Prices ensure that the partners have a mutual interest in cooperation, i.e., the participant is assured income per unit of investment and cost in proportion to his contribution through his share in distribution of the final results of economic activity. Using calculated prices in contracts becomes extremely important in this context. The profitability of the economic activity of the cooperating partners depends to a decisive degree on how correctly they have been established. But a number of difficulties are encountered in setting calculated prices. The problem is complex because it is not always justified to provide all participants in cooperation equal profit against equal expenditures. Distribution of profit on a leveling basis would mean justifying all expenditures, which does not encourage cost reduction in all stages of production. Moreover, it is also unjustified because within an association there may be economic units with differing levels of technical capability, with differing labor intensiveness of production, and so on. If the proportionality of income to the contribution to cooperation is to be assured, the calculated price must be based on sound standards of expenditures of live and embodied labor for all types of production within the association, which has not been fully provided for at the present time.

Along with the purchase prices for agricultural products, the state sets prices for the agricultural means of production. It is the general trend in these countries for the means of production to become more expensive in both absolute and relative terms. This is manifested in two factors.

First, these prices are rising faster than wholesale prices,⁶ and second, the rise in the price of new equipment is often not proportional to the rise in its productivity.

As agriculture becomes industrialized, outlays for new equipment substantially exceed the rise in the income of enterprises, which in a number of cases results in the farm's reduced business efficiency. The prices of the means of production are rising not only because expensive new machines are being used, but also because of price revisions in industries and more expensive mineral raw materials. For instance, while purchase prices in Hungary rose 6.5 percent in 1977, prices of manufactured fertilizers rose 25 percent, which resulted in a reduction in the application of fertilizer per hectare even in the industrial-type production systems. In Czechoslovakia prices of manufactured fertilizers rose 20 percent in 1977.⁷

There are various reasons why new equipment is more expensive than the old equipment. They include the incompleteness of deliveries (for example, there are supposed to be 55 machines and implements to go with the K-700 tractor, but until recently industry was manufacturing only 34); the shortage, short deliveries and unfavorable prices of spare parts; the discrepancy between the calculated technical-and-economic indicators of new equipment and actual performance characteristics (the calculated technical-and-economic indicators used as the basis for setting wholesale prices of industry and relief prices to agriculture are ordinarily arrived at under ideal experimental conditions).

In view of all these factors it is an urgent problem for all the CEMA countries as agriculture becomes industrialized to reinforce the relations between agricultural production cooperatives and state farms on the one hand and manufacturers of the means of production on the other. The setting of prices for agricultural equipment should guarantee a situation in which the manufacturing plant would have an incentive for the continuous operation of the means of production over their entire projected service life. But, as experience has shown, for the economic benefit obtained as the result of an enterprise's product in agriculture to be the purpose of that industrial enterprise's production, the system of the agroindustrial complex would have to go through an organizational revamping. The conversion must be made to direct and immediate relations between industrial enterprises and producers of the means of production. Some experience in making this transition has been gained in Hungary, and the same task is being set forth in the other CEMA countries as well.

In addition to prices, state subsidies are an important factor ensuring the normal course of expanded reproduction in socialist agriculture. Subsidies are nonrepayable payments made to enterprises in order to support and speed up the growth of agricultural production. They may be paid through the price, i.e., they may take the form of supplements to the price or special one-time grants. Subsidies are widely used in all the socialist countries. But they differ in their economic content and significance. Some types

have come about for objective reasons and do not violate cost-accounting principles of managing economic operations, while others result from defects in the present economic mechanism and inadequate production efficiency, and they are to be eliminated in future. The first group of subsidies includes the special system of price supplements to equalize the economic conditions under which enterprises operate in different economic and climatic zones and also centralized subsidies for acquisition of new technology, construction and installation work, and so on, while the second group includes subsidies related to the fact that the costs of agricultural enterprises are not covered by the present purchase prices because of shortcomings in the statewide economic system. It has been typical of the seventies that the importance of the subsidies in the first group has increased, while that in the second has undergone a relative decline.

Price subsidies in order to redistribute differential rent and to create equal conditions for economic activity are widely used in the CEMA countries. In Bulgaria farms operating under worse conditions receive supplements amounting to 20-60 percent of the purchase price, and these supplements are moreover differentiated by three zones: the foothills, the mountains and the high mountains.

In Hungary equal production conditions are created by paying agricultural enterprises subsidies which vary from 5 to 30 percent of the base purchase price and average 11 percent of that price.

In the GDR farms operating under adverse conditions receive bonuses for equal achievements that exceed the national averages by 20-30 percent.

In the USSR the conditions for economic activity are equalized by means of zonal prices.

In Czechoslovakia a kind of rent subsidy for use of poorer land is applied when purchase prices are set. It is granted as a function of land quality on a fixed basis: from 1 to 60 korunas for every 100 korunas of sale.⁸

Subsidies for equipment and for construction of livestock buildings and irrigation and drainage structures have become widespread in all the socialist countries; this is related not only to the shortage of resources for carrying out major investment projects, but in a number of cases to the fact that prices of means of production have risen faster than purchase prices. The advantage of such subsidies is that they promote concentration of capital investments and are earmarked for a specific purpose.

The third type of subsidies is related to the need to create for enterprises normal conditions for expanded reproduction in spite of the high level of their production costs. In such cases the level of purchase prices is set higher than the level of retail prices, and the difference is made up out of the state budget.

In the USSR the state's outlays for the production, processing and sale of products were in the mid-seventies double the retail prices for beef, 1.4-fold higher for mutton, 1.3-fold higher for pork, 1.4-fold higher for butter and 1.3-fold higher for potatoes.⁹ To a greater or lesser degree a similar picture is observed for all practical purposes in the other European CEMA countries as well. For instance, in 1975 subsidies in Poland covered 25 percent of the value of agricultural production. In order to raise the rate of profit of agricultural production, in 1978 the state allocated 60 percent more subsidies than in 1975.¹⁰ But in future, as industrialization of agriculture is completed and as costs drop in the various branches of animal husbandry, this type of subsidy is to decrease or disappear altogether. This conclusion is specifically confirmed by development of industrial-type poultry raising in the CEMA countries, where production has been doing without subsidies for a long time now. Moreover, in a number of countries--the GDR and Czechoslovakia, for example--purchase prices for eggs and broilers have dropped somewhat in recent years.¹¹

The credit system has great importance to the development of agriculture. If we follow the dynamic behavior and composition of the funds furnished agriculture in a number of socialist countries through the credit system, we can conclude that these funds are becoming an increasingly effective regulator of production.

After the end of production cooperation and before the beginning of the seventies short-term credit predominated in most of the European CEMA countries (Bulgaria, the GDR, Romania and Czechoslovakia). In this period credit was extended mainly as a means of providing financial aid to farms experiencing losses. It has gone mainly to cover the need for working capital. This short-term credit financing did not solve the problem of capital formation, nor did it ensure punctual repayment of the funds. Another peculiarity of this period is that borrowed funds have mainly been used by agricultural production cooperatives, whereas state farms have hardly gone outside the limits of subsidies from the state budget in the process of redistribution.

Since the beginning of the seventies the picture has been changing. The creation of larger surpluses on the farms themselves has had the result that agricultural enterprises are resorting to credit more and more rarely and are using it more effectively than before. Over the last 5 years, for example, the share of borrowed funds in sources of financing has dropped in the GDR, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. But this by no means indicates a decline in the importance of credit to agriculture. The composition of credit is undergoing a fundamental change. There is a sharp increase in the relative share of long-term investment credit and a reduction of short-term credit. The role of long-term credit in the Soviet Union began to grow in the late sixties, in large part due to the accelerated transition of sovkhozes to full cost accounting.

At the present time the point of view that credit funds should be extended first of all to profitable farms which are setting aside sufficient funds for their accumulation fund, preference moreover being given to major investment projects, is becoming more and more widespread in the socialist countries. This viewpoint is being reflected more and more in the state's credit policy. Long-term investment credit is becoming an important incentive for speeding up conversion of agriculture to an industrial basis. In the GDR, for example, the rate of interest and time for which credit is extended depend on the farm's participation with its own funds in financing capital investments. Moreover, there are incentives to encourage creation of industrial-type production subdivisions in cropping and livestock-raising operations; in this case the rate of interest on the loan is reduced to only 40 percent of the usual rate of interest.¹²

In Hungary when credits are being distributed among agricultural enterprises it is common to use a competition, which is conducive to speeding up technical progress. Special criteria of creditworthiness have been worked out: level of profitability, annual growth of the intrafarm accumulation fund, and the date when the capital investment project will go into operation.¹³ In Bulgaria the most favorable credits are extended within the agroindustrial complex for construction of modern livestock houses.

Whereas funds are being redistributed to agriculture from centralized funds through the system of subsidies and credits, deductions on the other hand are being made to the state budget through the tax system. And the material incentive of the farms depends to a considerable degree on how sound the system of taxation is.

In recent years there has been a marked tendency in a number of socialist countries toward a closer linkage between the level of taxes and the level of profitability.

As early as 1973 Bulgaria introduced a standard tax for worker-peasant cooperative societies and state agricultural enterprises, and when the cooperatives and state farms lost their economic independence, it was extended to the agroindustrial complex.

In the GDR a single tax also has now been introduced for most farms; it is based on the gross income of the enterprise per unit of land area (taking into account its quality) and the average annual income per member. For agricultural production cooperatives engaged in animal husbandry and people's estates on which production is carried on on an industrial basis, and on interfarm livestock-raising complexes the procedure governing deductions to the state budget is somewhat different. The deductions are made as a function of profitability (relative to fixed capital); they begin at a profitability of 40 marks of profit per 1,000 marks of value of fixed capital; at a profit of 40-45 marks the deductions amount to 0.5 percent of the total amount of profit; thereafter they progressively increase, and at a profit of 290 marks per 1,000 marks of fixed capital, they reach 40 percent. If profit increases further, the rate of the deductions remains the same.¹⁴

In the USSR the income tax also depends on the level of profitability. The July (1978) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee acknowledged the advisability of exempting kolkhozes with a profitability under 25 percent from the payment of this tax.¹⁵

In Czechoslovakia the taxing of cooperatives is closely related to stimulating the growth of the intrafarm accumulation fund. When the income tax is computed, the total amount of transfers to the accumulation fund is deducted from gross income. Thus the consumption fund becomes the basis for computation of the tax.

Until 1977 the income tax on cooperatives in Hungary was a function of the consumption fund. At the present time gross income is taken as the basis for computing the tax.

The interest of society as a whole and of the individual collectives is combined by means of financial regulation. Prerequisites are consequently created for ensuring material motivation on the part of the individual. But if these prerequisites are to be utilized, incentives have to be broken down so that they reach each primary working collective and every specific producer, and this is possible only through development, practical application and constant improvement of a system of incentives for individual workers based on the socialist principle of remuneration for work on the basis of its quantity and quality.

Remuneration is the principal form whereby producers realize their personal economic interest in the system of production relations of socialism.

Through it a direct connection is ensured between the results of labor, production efficiency and the income of the direct producers. Over the last decade the role of remuneration as a material incentive has increased considerably in the agriculture of the CEMA member countries. This is because the transition has by and large been made to money remuneration, because a guaranteed minimum has been adopted, because the share of staples necessary for reproduction of manpower is gradually dropping, and because the share of income coming from the personal subsidiary plot is gradually diminishing.

A transition in agriculture to the wage rate system of remuneration is typical of most of the countries under consideration. Moreover, uniform wage rates are being adopted both for the cooperative and also the state sector. In Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia as much as 90 percent of the fund for remuneration of the socialized farm is now paid on the basis of wage rates established by the ministries of agriculture and the food industry. Proper rates of payment for agricultural work--scientifically sound norm setting for this work--is an indispensable prerequisite. The setting of rates for agricultural work is the basis of all forms of remuneration in the sector, since the base payments, bonuses and supplements are computed against the wage rate. Three principal forms of remuneration are in use: the contract bonus system, the piece-rate bonus system, and the time-rate bonus system.

In Bulgaria, the GDR, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia essentially the same forms of remuneration are in effect in the state and cooperative sectors with the sole difference that in agricultural production cooperative remuneration is more closely bound up with the level of production and production efficiency than on state farms.

Development of full mechanization is tending to increase the role of the contract bonus system. In the general opinion of scientists and practitioners this system takes into account most fully the individual material interest of the producers in a situation when the end product is the result of the collective's work activity. This form is used along with advances based on time worked: 60-80 percent of the total wage is paid during the year, and 20-40 percent is paid in the form of bonuses on the basis of results.¹⁶ A rapid growth of remuneration in agriculture—an annual average of 4.3-5 percent—is typical of the socialist countries as a whole.

Table 2. Growth of the Average Monthly Earnings of Workers and Employees in the Agricultural Sector in the 1960-1977 Period (1960 = 100 percent)

<u>Country</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1977</u>
Bulgaria	111	144	185	196
Hungary	112	150	192	222
GDR	129	149	187	198
Poland	118	147	249	356
Romania	138	182	238	255
USSR	136	181	230	252
Czechoslovakia	118	162	201	213

Source: "Statisticheskiy yezhagodnik stran-chlenov SEV v 1978" [Statistical Yearbook of the CEMA Member Countries in 1978], pp 404-406.

Table 3. Ratio of the Average Monthly Remuneration of Workers and Employees in the Agricultural Sector to Remuneration of Employees in the National Economy as a Whole, in percentage

<u>Country</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1977</u>
Bulgaria	95.0	86.3	94.5	96.2
Hungary	91.2	98.2	96.3	98.4
GDR	85.1	93.2	94.9	95.1
Poland	81.5	83.9	99.1	102.2
Romania	85.6	92.5	95.8	—
USSR	68.5	82.8	86.9	89.6
Czechoslovakia	81.5	93.2	96.1	97.1

Source: "Statisticheskiy yezhagodnik stran-chlenov SEV v 1978," pp 404-406.

in this sector. In Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia, for example, a closer relation has been established between remuneration and years of service in a single workplace; a supplement is paid for work under difficult and unhealthy conditions; large one-time awards are paid, and personnel assigned to agriculture are given preferences in obtaining housing if they work in the sector a relatively long period of time (3-5 years), and this is yielding good results.

As we see, a number of steps are now being taken in the CEMA countries toward consistent strengthening of the material incentives for agricultural production and to help transform agriculture into an efficient sector of social production.

FOOTNOTES

1. PLANOVO STOPANSTVO, No 3, 1977, pp 51-69
2. Potapov, Kh. Ye., "Ekonomicheskoye oboznovaniye zagotovitel'nykh tsen v sel'skom khozyaystve yevropeyskikh sotsialisticheskikh stran" [Economic Basis of Purchase Prices in the Agriculture of the European Socialist Countries], Moscow, VNIITsel'khoz, 1975, p 11.
3. In Hungary only 60 percent of the purchase prices are set centrally, while the share in the other CEMA countries is 90-95 percent (see: "Problemy razvitiya sel'skogo khozyaystva sotsialisticheskikh stran Yevropy" [Problems in the Development of Agriculture of the European Socialist Countries], Moscow, Nauka, 1973, p 62).
4. The need to raise prices of agricultural products has been objective in nature. The reason is that the system of procurement and purchase prices that has come about in the socialist countries when the foundations of socialism were being laid mainly performed a redistributive function: a portion of the net product taken from agriculture was used in other sectors. As the transition is being made to a more balanced economy, and as the importance of economic methods of managing the economy is increasing greatly, this kind of system of agricultural prices has become inapplicable.
5. EKONOMIKA SEL'SKOGO KHOZYAYSTVA, No 9, 1978, pp 53-54.
6. In the number of cases there are also substantial price reductions on agricultural equipment in the CEMA countries; for example, in the GDR prices of the K-700 tractor dropped 33 percent over the last 5 years, and equipment for dairy farms with a capacity of 2,000 head dropped 30 percent (NEUE DEUTSCHE BAUERNZEITUNG, 29 September 1973).
7. MEZHDUNARODNYY SEL'SKOKHOZYAYSTVENNYY ZHURNAL, No 5, 1978, p 18.

The figures in Table 2 show the dynamic behavior of wages on state farms.

The growth rates of remuneration on agricultural production cooperatives have been high. In Bulgaria the average annual remuneration of cooperative members increased from 459 to 1,356 leva between 1960 and 1975, a threefold increase, while in the USSR remuneration of kolkhoz members per man-day increased from 2.68 to 5 rubles between 1965 and 1977, and the approximate increase was 3.5-fold relative to 1960. In Czechoslovakia the average annual growth rates of remuneration in recent decades have been about 8 percent in cooperatives and 5 percent on state farms; the average level of remuneration has been higher in agricultural production cooperatives than on state farms. In the other CEMA European countries remuneration on cooperatives has been 10-30 percent lower than on state farms.¹⁷

It is typical of the countries we are considering that remuneration has grown faster in agriculture than in the national economy as a whole, which has helped to overcome agriculture's lag behind other sectors in its remuneration (Table 3).

Remuneration in the agriculture of Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia has come quite close to the level of the entire national economy, and has exceeded it in many cooperatives and state farms. Equalizing levels of remuneration of farmworkers and those employed in other sectors of the economy is not only a material incentive, but is also a moral incentive that has a constructive impact on the psychology of the peasantry. At the same time we should note that remuneration in the agriculture of the socialist countries of CEMA has grown at higher rates than its productivity over a lengthy period. Its most sizable growth has been in the USSR, Czechoslovakia and Poland. In the Soviet Union, for example, the average annual growth of remuneration on sovkhozes exceeded the growth of labor productivity 1.6-fold between 1956 and 1975 and amounted to about 8 percent.¹⁸ In Czechoslovakia, though the growth rates of labor productivity lagged behind remuneration, there was also another contradiction. Remuneration has been higher on cooperatives than state farms, but productivity has been lower. For instance, according to figures for 1976, remuneration on Czechoslovak farm cooperatives was 6-25 percent higher than on state farms, but productivity was 10-15 percent lower.¹⁹

The ratio that has come about between the rise of remuneration and the growth of labor productivity in the agriculture of the CEMA countries is a temporary phenomenon. In the situation where remuneration in agriculture was extremely low, it was on the whole objectively justified for it to rise faster than labor productivity. An expedient solution to the problem can be found by raising the growth rates of labor productivity in agriculture thanks to its industrialization.

Recently remuneration in the socialist countries has begun to play an ever greater role as a social factor helping to keep young people, machine operators, in agriculture and to enlist the necessary specialists to work

8. MEZHDUNARODNYI SEL'SKOKHOZYAYSTVENNIY ZHURNAL, No 5, 1978, p 19.
9. Gumerov, R. M., "Sovershenstvovaniye tsenoobrazovaniya i razvitiye khozraschetnykh otnosheniy v sel'skom khozyaystve" [Improvement of Price Setting and Development of Cost-Accounting Relations in Agriculture], Moscow, Kolos, 1976, p 147.
10. "Agrargazdasag kutato intezet" (First Finnish-Polish-Hungarian Seminar on Agricultural Economics), Budapest, 1977, pp 35-58.
11. MEZHDUNARODNYI SEL'SKOKHOZYAYSTVENNIY ZHURNAL, No 5, 1978, p 18.
12. EKONOMIKA SEL'SKOGO KHOZYAYSTVA, No 6, 1974, p 106.
13. The minimum profitability at which credit is extended is 7 percent, the minimum amount of internal financing at which credit is extended is 30 percent of total capital outlays without state subsidies (MAGYAR MEZOGAZDASAG, No 9, 1977, pp 25-26).
14. "Oekonomische Massnahmen in der Landwirtschaft und Nahrungsqueterwirtschaft zur weiteren sozialistischen Intensivierung," Berlin, 1976, p 65.
15. EKONOMIKA SEL'SKOGO KHOZYAYSTVA, No 9, 1978, p 51.
16. EKONOMIKA I POLNOHOSPODARSTVO, No 8, 1976, pp 360-363.
17. POLITICHENA AGITATSIYA, 16 December 1975; STATISZTIKAI EVKONYV, No 98, 1975, p 2221; ZEMEDEL'SKA EKONOMIKA, No 3, 1976, pp 141-154; EKONOMIKA SEL'SKOGO KHOZYAYSTVA, No 9, 1978, p 47.
18. Vorontsov, A. P., "Problemy rosta i sootnosheniya proizvoditel'nosti i oplaty truda v sel'skom khozyaystve" [Problems in the Growth and Relationship of Labor Productivity and Remuneration in Agriculture], Moscow, EKONOMIKA, 1978, p 112.
19. EKONOMIKA I POLNOHOSPODARSTVO, No 8, 1977, pp 353-355.

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TRADE WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

SALE OF LICENSES VIEWED IN FOREIGN TRADE CONTEXT

Moscow KHOZYAYSTVO I PRAVO in Russian No. 3, 1980 pp 74-76

[Article by S. Sokolov, Deputy Chief of the License Division of USSR Goskomizobreteniy (State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries): "Material Incentives for the Sale of Licenses"]

[Text] The sale of licenses is one of the most effective types of foreign trade. Just as in the case of for any delivery of commodities for export, the organizations which have developed an item, prepared it for sale, and taken part in performing the conditions of a license agreement receive deductions in currency from the payments provided for by this agreement. As a rule, the amount of the deductions is considerably more than in the case of practically all other types of items. This makes the sale of licenses extremely profitable for industrial organizations.

In favor of the industrial organizations 80 percent of the funds in foreign currency are deducted, of which 50 percent is for the creation of centralized assets of the USSR ministries and departments and the Union Republic Councils of Ministers and 30 percent goes directly to the enterprises, scientific-research, planning and designing, and other organizations which have developed the licensed item or cooperated in this. The transfer of these deductions is carried out by the Soviet foreign-trade organizations after receiving the corresponding payments from the licensee (the purchaser of the license).

For the money received from the sale of licenses the ministries, departments, and organizations may obtain foreign licenses, as well as machines, equipment, instruments, and materials necessary to carry out scientific-research projects, or to produce goods for export. Furthermore, these funds are utilized to cover the expenses of sending broad Soviet specialists on assignments and to acquire foreign scientific and technical literature.

If in the development of a licensed item, its preparation for sale, advertising negotiations, and carrying out the conditions of the agreement several Soviet enterprises and organizations take part, then each of the co-performers has the right to receive a share of the currency revenues.

In practice the distribution of currency deductions occurs in the following manner. When a licensed item is proposed for sale, the general supplier determines the degree of participation of all the organizations in carrying out the enumerated complex of operations and compiles a record of the percentage distribution of the currency revenues being proposed. After a specific agreement is signed, this record may be reviewed, depending on the active participation of the organizations in the work. The compilation of such a record prior to the signing of a license agreement is more desirable, since it facilitates the objective and operative solution of the given problem.

In determining the degree of participation of enterprises and organizations in the complex of operations it is recommended that the estimated cost of carrying out this or that phase be taken into consideration without accounting for overhead expenses; also the presence of inventions, the rights to the use of which are actually being conveyed to the foreign buyer and will be utilized by him; expenses incurred in demonstrating a licensed item under production conditions, the preparation of advertising materials, taking part in exhibits, sending specialists to a firm's enterprises to assist in output production in accordance with the license, etc.

When the parties cannot arrive at an unanimous opinion regarding the principles of distributing the deductions and regarding their specific amounts, these problems may be referred for consideration to the Interdepartmental Commission under the jurisdiction of Goskomizobreteniy.

The agreed-upon record concerning the currency deductions is sent to the foreign-trade organizations which carried out the sale; they also carry out the appropriate financial operations.

If there are many co-performer organizations, the entire amount of the deductions may be transferred to the general supplier, who also carries out calculations with the co-performer in accordance with the Instruction on the deduction procedure, the use and computation of foreign currency to be transferred to the enterprises producing the goods for export, to the USSR ministries and departments, as well as to the Union-Republic Councils of Ministers, as approved by the Ministry of Foreign Trade in accordance with the USSR Ministry of Finances and the USSR Vneshtorgbank (Foreign-Trade Bank).

We must dwell particularly on the case where an institution of the system of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education is acting in the capacity of a co-performer.

In accordance with a decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, dated 6 April 1978 No. 271, it has been established that USSR ministries and departments receiving deductions in foreign currency for licenses sold, including inventions which have been developed at higher educational institutions must transfer to the USSR ministries and departments which have jurisdiction over these higher educational institutions no less

than 20 percent of the currency being received. This is connected with the fact that developments at the higher educational institutions in the overwhelming majority of cases can be implemented in accordance with the licensing agreements only with the aid of the enterprises and organizations of the industrial ministries and departments which have carried out their industrial completion and utilization.

Still another type of incentive for the sale of licenses is the material encouragement of the authors of inventions which have been included in the body of the licenses sold.

The decree of the USSR Council of Ministers dated 21 August 1973 No. 584 established that the amounts of an award to such authors may reach three percent of the total amounts received for each sold license, but the total amount of the award for each author-inventor certificate must not be in excess of 20,000 rubles.

It should be noted that sometimes licenses are sold for developments which are recognized as inventions in the USSR but which, for various reasons, have not been patented abroad. In any case the authors of such inventions have the right to an award when there is present in the USSR an author-inventor certificate or patent, acquired in the country to which a license has been sold.

The procedure for paying out a given award has been set forth in the Instruction on the procedure for computing and paying out awards to inventors for inventions marketed abroad in accordance with the licensing agreements approved by Goskomsobreteniy.

The foreign-trade organizations which have carried out the sale of a license deduct for the Goskomsobreteniy three percent from the sums obtained for its sale. The deductions take place from the one-time as well as from on-going payments. The general suppliers of licenses within a period of a month after transferring technical information to a buyer report to the Goskomsobreteniy data on what is included in the inventions (or technical solutions, the requisitions for which are at the review stage) with an indication of their technical value in percentages. In other words, if a sold license includes a number of technical solutions, recognized as inventions, the general supplier is entitled to determine a share of the award for each of them.

In practice the technical value of all the inventions may comprise 100 percent of the entire technical essence of a licensed item. In case all the inventions do not comprise 100 percent, the remaining amounts are subsequently transferred to the income of the state budget.

An entire authors' group may take part in the creation of each one of such inventions. In this case all the authors must, independently or through their organization, present the necessary minimum documents to the Goskomsobreteniy. These documents include the following: originals of the author-

inventor certificates for elucidating the amount of the award received previously and the insertion of a new record concerning the award, an agreement between the co-authors concerning the distribution of the award for each invention separately, signed by all the authors (or their heirs) without exception with an indication of last name, first name, patronymic, year of birth, children, and home address of each author or heir. The signatures of the authors or their heirs must be verified by the enterprise where they work or be notarized. Individual stipulation is required in a situation where the authors of the inventions are foreign citizens or persons without citizenship. In accordance with Soviet law such persons enjoy all the rights which have been established for Soviet citizens.

All payments are carried out by Goskomsobretaniy. If the authors' place of residence is unknown at a given time, their share of the award is determined by a juridical procedure, and the amount due is deposited in the state notary offices.

In order to further increase the material self-interest of the authors of inventions, the USSR Council of Ministers on 28 December 1978 adopted Decree No. 1078, in accordance with which an award for inventions which are included in a sold license, as well as those which are transferred abroad in line with contracts of the "Vneshtekhnika" V/O (All-Union Association), may be, at the wishes of the authors, paid out to them in Soviet rubles, "Vneshpoyltorg" V/O checks, or placed in a Type "B" author's account in the USSR Vneshtorgbank (Foreign Trade Bank).

It should be noted that for inventions which are included in the technical documentation transmitted to foreign partners by way of rendering technical or economic aid no reimbursement is made, or, in carrying out scientific and technical cooperation, the size of the award to the authors is determined by the ministry which has carried out such a transfer and which also carries out its payment.

Material incentives have also been provided for the category of co-workers who are not authors of inventions but who have taken part directly and actively in preparing a licensed item for sale or patenting, carrying out commercial-advertising measures, and fulfilling the conditions of the licensing agreements. For this type of award payments there is set aside five percent of the amounts derived from each license agreement. The foreign-trade organization which implements the sale of a license submits a proposal concerning the distribution of this type of award to the Interdepartmental Commission under Goskomsobretaniy. This proposal indicates according to what agreement and with what amounts provisions have been made to carry out the payment of awards and among which organizations the distribution of the award amounts must be carried out. In determining the share for each organization the foreign-trade organization proceeds from the degree of participation by each of them in carrying out the entire complex of operations. Usually, 70--75 percent of the award is deducted in favor of the industrial organizations, 12--15 percent for the foreign-trade organization, and the remaining amount is

divided up among the other listed organizations. Naturally, if the industrial organizations have carried out their foreign-trade supply orders not on schedule or with a low level of quality, have sent specialists not in good time to a licensee's enterprises, or have permitted some other violations of the conditions of the license agreement, their share of the award deductions may be reduced.

After reviewing and approving is completed on the proposals of the foreign-trade organization a protocol of the Interdepartmental Commission is sent to the foreign-trade organization and is the basis for carrying out the corresponding deductions.

Upon receiving the award amounts in the organizations and in the enterprises their distribution among the specific performers is carried out following the generally accepted procedure.

It should be noted that the authors of inventions may be awarded additional amounts from these totals. The decision about this is taken by the directors of the enterprise or organization upon agreement with the trade-union organization. Criteria for the paying out of such a type of awards have not been established in the author's certificate. In accordance with this article the maximum total of awards are included in the maximum sizes of the awards as established by the appropriate normative acts.

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TRADE WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

COMMENTARY GAINSAYS USSR DEPENDENCE ON WESTERN TRADE

Moscow NOVOSTI DAILY REVIEW in English 8 Apr 80 pp 1-2

[Article by Gennadiy Pisarevskiy, NOVOSTI political analyst: "Trade Is the Basis for 'The Economy of Detente'"]

[Text] APN, 2 Apr--The economic cooperation between states with different social systems is the material groundwork for peaceful coexistence. Such cooperation can be figuratively called "the economy of detente." East-West trade provides its basis. In particular, trade between the Soviet Union and industrialized capitalist countries rose from 4,700 million rubles^{x)} in 1970 to 25,700 million rubles in 1979, i.e., approximately 5.5-fold.

The Record Results of 1979

In 1979 the USSR's whole foreign trade turnover went up by 14.3 percent as compared with 1978 and reached 80,300 million rubles, and the goods turnover with West European countries^{xx)} rose by 30.6 percent, reaching 19,300 million rubles.

Holland has set the absolute record: in 1979 the Dutch raised trade with the USSR 2.5-fold. The volume of Soviet-French trade increased by 44.6 percent, while West Germany, the USSR's biggest Western trading partner, increased its goods turnover with the Soviet Union by 28.5 percent, bringing it to 4,200 million rubles.

Three countries--France, Japan and Finland--calculate their goods turnover with the USSR by the same figure--2,600 million rubles. This figure shows the degree to which trade between the major industrial powers and the Soviet Union is underdeveloped: small Finland and Japan, the second economic giant of the capitalist world, have the same index.

^{x)} Ruble is roughly equal to 1.6 US dollars at the official exchange rate.

^{xx)} Western Europe accounts now for 75 percent of the USSR's trade turnover with the whole group of developed capitalist countries.

The Soviet Union and its partners can be quite satisfied with the results of 1979. But one should not delude oneself: the present volume of trade does not correspond to the potentialities of the USSR and developed Western countries.

The Deficit Diminishes

In 1978 the USSR's deficit in trade with industrialized capitalist countries amounted to about 2,300 million rubles and in 1979 it fell to 0.7 billion rubles. The deficit dropped both due to the growth of the sale of Soviet goods and due to the rise of the world prices on them. This relates, above all, to oil and other energy sources.

The Soviet Union increased its sales of plastics, artificial resins, mineral fertilizers, tractors and cars to Western countries. Firms of more than 40 countries buy Soviet metallurgical equipment whose sale rose by 31.6 percent. The USSR is also one of the major exporters of energy equipment, including equipment for nuclear stations. On the whole, last year the sale of machinery to capitalist countries rose by 14 percent.

In conclusion I would like to mention some more figures. In 1979 the USSR's national gross product topped 1,000,000 million rubles. The imports of all goods from industrialized capitalist countries amounted to 13,200 million rubles. The USSR bought machines and equipment worth just 4,500 million rubles, which is less than 0.5 percent of the Soviet Union's gross product. These figures best of all refute the thesis about the USSR's "dependence" on the imports of Western technology of which they now speak so often in the West.

The Soviet Union has invariably been standing for the extension of all forms of economic cooperation primarily because this materializes detente and consolidates the policy of peace. The translation of detente into life and close cooperation between all countries in solving global (energy, economic, medical and other) problems is the only reasonable alternative to the arms race which is accelerating the race towards the destruction of humanity.

Detente is now living through hard times. The opponents of detente want to aggravate the political situation, to deal a blow at East-West economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation. The well-orchestrated campaign concerning the "Soviet threat" and the countless embargoes on trade with the USSR, which have overzealously been imposed by the US Administration for several months, are an attempt to unleash a second cold war. However, the new edition of the cold war will bring the White House nothing except financial, political and even moral losses since the use of "food weapons" contradicts morality.

TRADE WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

MERCURY-TAINTED WHEAT FOR USSR CONFISCATED IN ROUEN

Paris LE MONDE in French 17 Apr 80 p 45

[Article by J.G. (possibly Jacqueline Grapin): "For Shipment to the USSR: Tainted Wheat Confiscated in Port of Rouen"]

[Text] A shipment of grain for the USSR has been confiscated in the port of Rouen last week. The two 6,000 ton holds of an 18,000 ship contained wheat intended for bread-making and which had been contaminated with seed wheat treated with mercury compounds. These organo-mercury compounds are toxic. For instance, the FO [Force Ouvriere] Consumer Organization--who made the matter public--recalls, they were the cause of the Pont-Saint-Esprit poisoning case, when packaging which had contained organo-mercury compounds had been reused. In the present case, although the proportion of contaminated wheat is low, 800 to 900 grams per kilo [as published], this amount renders the whole shipment unfit for consumption.

Early in March, a 3,500 ton shipment of grains had already been refused on identical grounds by its Polish consignee. This refusal, together with a work-to-rule strike of the fraud-control personnel, affecting trade with East European countries, have led to the discovery of this matter, the extent of which is hard to evaluate at present. Eight barges loaded with wheat are said to have been placed under seal at La Ferte-sous-Jouarre (Seine-et-Marne), as well as a truck in Beauvais. The matter has been referred to the court, and the investigation will tell whether this is only an isolated error during handling at a storage facility. It should also determine whether wheat intended for domestic consumption has been affected by this contamination. The FO Consumer Organization has asked for "determination and immediate neutralization of all existing stocks which might present an obvious potential hazard for the consumers." It also remarks that this affair cannot fail to constitute a serious obstacle to our grain exportations at a time when the international situation of the wheat market is a cause for concern.

The General Association of Wheat Producers does not deny the accident; however, according to its manager, Mr David, the amount of grain contami-

nated with toxic products is extremely low and does not constitute a hazard to human health. Poland's refusal of a barley shipment, for sanitary reasons, can also be considered as common trading practice. "All seed wheat treated against soil diseases is colored bright red so as to make it easily recognizable. The awareness created by the Polish case will of course result in a multiplication of controls and serve as a reminder to all producers to be careful," Mr David also stated.

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TRADE WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

BRIEFS

BRITISH FIRM'S REPRESENTATION--The British firm ICI has been accredited by the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade and has opened a permanent representation in Moscow. This brings the number of British company or bank representations in the Soviet capital to 30. ICI is currently supplying equipment for a plant for manufacturing methanol from natural gas, which will be built in Gubakha, near Perm'. ICI technology will also be used in a methanol plant in Tomsk, which will be built there with the participation of a British consortium of firms headed by Davy International. Both enterprises will begin production in 1982. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 pp 1-2]

FRG FIRM'S REPRESENTATION--The firm Robert Bosch, Ltd. has opened its own office in Moscow; it is the 32d FRG representation of firms and banks to do so. A short time ago Babcock, Ltd. has opened a representation in Moscow. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 3]

AUSTRIAN LADIES' FOOTWEAR--The Austrian firms of Kraus Co. and Hoegel will supply the Soviet Union with more than 1 million pairs of ladies' leather shoes as well as dress boots on commission from the Moscow Central Office of Raznoeksport. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 7]

FINNISH CRANES--In 1980-81 the Finnish firm Kone will deliver eight container cranes with a hoisting capacity of 30.5 megaponds each and with a total value of more than R8 million for use in the harbors of Leningrad and Riga. Moreover the Moscow Central Office of Mashinimport has ordered from Kone two dock cranes with a hoisting capacity of 10-15 megaponds. They should be delivered this year. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 7]

OLD ALUMINUM SUPPLIED--From March to June the Moscow Central Office of Raznoeksport will supply old aluminum valued at R10.4 million for Japanese motor vehicles by order of several Japanese firms. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 7]

CHEMICAL DELIVERIES--The Moscow Central Office of Soyuzkhimeksport has ordered polyvinyl butyral valued at R4.2 million from the British firm M. Golodetz, Ltd. with delivery slated for 1980-81. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 7]

SOVIET-FINNISH TALKS--Plans for cooperation in building diesel powerplants of various capacities are under discussion by Soviet authorities and the Finnish firms of Waertaila and Valmet. Presumably diesel motors will be used as the driving mechanisms; they can be operated out-of-doors with gasoline [sic] as well as natural gas and gasified fuel. At the end of 1979 Waertaila signed a protocol for scientific & technical cooperation with the Leningrad Elektrosila Trust; this provides for the joint development of diesel powerplants. A Finnish motor and a Soviet generator will be used for these installations. Recently both Finnish firms held a symposium in Moscow on the construction and operation of diesel powerplants. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 7]

FRENCH MEASURING DEVICE--The Moscow Central Office of Mashpriborintorg is negotiating with the French firm Comef on the purchase of a "Metrilas"-M 100/E laser measuring device. The market value is estimated at R240,000. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 8]

FRENCH, SWEDISH PIPE--The French firm Vallourec will supply 150,000 tons of large pipe to the Soviet Union. There it will be used for building natural gas and oil pipelines. The Moscow Central Office of Promsyr'yeimport has purchased welded pipe from the Swedish firms Fagersta and Uddeholms, which will be delivered this year. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 8 Apr 80 p 7]

BELGIAN SHEET STEEL--The Moscow Central Office of Promsyr'yeimport has ordered cold-rolled stock valued at \$23.4 million from the Belgian company Arbed, which already began deliveries at the end of March. In 1979 Arbed sold sheet steel for approximately R70 million to the Soviet Union. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 8 Apr 80 p 7]

FRENCH CABLE ORDERED--The Moscow Central Office of Raznoimport has ordered inflammable cable for a total of R10 million from the French firm Les Cables de Lyon. In 1979 the cable was tested by a Soviet reinforced concrete institute. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 8 Apr 80 p 7]

MILLING MACHINE ORDERED--The Moscow Central Office of Avtopromimport has ordered a numerically controlled circular milling machine from the Austrian "Company for Finishing Technique and Machine-Building" [GMF], with delivery scheduled for November 1981. The value of the contract comes to R1.4 million. The set of machines can mill main bearings and crankpins for crankshafts and can machine bevels. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 8 Apr 80 p 7]

TRADE WITH LDC'S

SOVIET TRADE WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, LDC'S INCREASING

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 15, 1980 pp 20-21

[Article by I. Kapranov, head of the planning and economic department of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations: "With Soviet Assistance"]

[Text] Soviet economic and technical assistance to other countries is developing on an increasing scale. In 1979, the USSR was helping a total of 46 countries to build or expand 740 enterprises and projects, of which 165 were put into operation. The export of complete plant for those projects increased by 13.9 percent as compared with 1978 and reached R2,300 million.

International Cooperation

Soviet assistance to the socialist countries covers practically all aspects of the economy. In 1979 the Soviet Union delivered complete plant for 340 projects, out of which over 120 were commissioned in part or in full.

In Bulgaria, the largest project under construction with Soviet help was the atomic power station Kozlodul, whose capacity was being increased from 880 megawatts to 1760 megawatts. At thermal power stations, Maritsa-Vostok-III and Varna, with an aggregate capacity of 2100 megawatts, two generating units were commissioned of 210 megawatts each. Equipment continued to be supplied for the colliery Bobov Dol with an output of 4,050,000 tons of coal a year and for the southern half-ring of the USSR-Bulgaria trunk gas pipeline. The pipeline was being built mainly from Bulgarian-made pipes manufactured at the plant of spiral-seam tubes in the town of Septemvri, the plant was likewise built with the help of Soviet organisations. Work continued to expand the Kremikovtsi iron and steel mills and an iron and steel plant at Pernik. A metal ware factory at Toman started making high-carbon wire, which was previously imported.

Complete plant continued to be delivered for a copper concentration plant and a mill to produce aluminium shapes. The projects commissioned included installations for oil and paraffin hydrotreating, for the production chlorine, acetaldehyde and phthalic anhydride, and a facility for tire retreading. Two house-building factories entered service.

In Hungary, a 750 kilovolt power transmission line 840 km long was brought into operation between Vinnitsa (USSR) and Albertirsa (Hungary). It can send to Hungary additionally an amount of electricity generated by a 1300 megawatt power station. Among the newly commissioned projects were an installation for hydrotreating diesel fuel at Szazhalombatt, the Tiszszaly plant for processing 3 million tons of oil a year at Leninvaros, and the Hungarian plant for the manufacture of rolling contact bearings. Work was underway on the construction of the country's first atomic power station Paks with an output of 1760 megawatts. At the Danube iron and steel works an oxygen-converter shop with a capacity of 1 million tons of steel a year was under construction. The first line of the cement works at Belapatfalv was placed in operation; its capacity is 600,000 tons.

In Vietnam, work was under way to expand the Hoa Binh hydro-scheme on the Black (Da) River with a capacity of 1920 megawatts and the Pha Lai thermal power station with an output of 640 megawatts, to reconstruct the Tin Tuc tin mine, and to enlarge a superphosphate factory at Lam Thao and the Lao Cai apatite mine. Geological prospecting was conducted on a large scale. Equipment deliveries were completed for the open-cast coalmine Kao Son--the largest in South East Asia--with a capacity of 2 million tons a year. A diesel engine plant, a truck repair factory and a works to manufacture road-building machines were under construction. Operation started at a house-building plant at Suan Mae and the No 2 berth in the port of Haiphong. Equipment continued to be delivered for a large flour mill, a cement works, a window pane factory, the Hanoi--Ho Chi Minh City railway, a bridge across the Red River in Hanoi, and radio stations. State farms were being expanded.

In the GDR, work went on to erect the atomic power station Nord, where a fourth generating unit was put in guaranteed operation, the total output reaching 1760 megawatts as a result; and to build the thermal power station Enschwalde of 3000 megawatts capacity, for which the USSR was delivering generating units of 900 megawatts each. A 400-megawatt generating set was commissioned at the thermal power station Boxberg, which has now become Europe's largest lignite-fired thermal power station, its capacity reaching 3520 megawatts. A Polimer-60 installation was put into operation for the production of high-pressure polyethylene with an annual output of 60,000 tons at a chemical works at Leuna, which will make it possible to double the manufacture of that product, and to stop importing and start exporting it. A large-panel house-building plant was commissioned at Zwickau and production lines for the manufacture of roof panels at Erfurt and Neubrandenburg.

In the Republic of Cuba, the thermal power station Rente at Santiago de Cuba was enlarged to 500 megawatts, with the fourth 100 megawatt generating set added; work proceeded to build power transmission lines with a total length of some 900 km. The capacity of the Jose Marti iron and steel works in Havana was being increased from 230,000 to 350,000 tons of steel a year. Large quantities of equipment were being delivered for a nickel plant at Punta Gorda for the production of 30,000 tons of nickel and cobalt a year (in terms of metal); this plant was being constructed on a compensation basis. An oil refinery at Santiago de Cuba was modernized. Help was

provided in the reconstruction of the Planta Mecanica works at Santa Clara (the engineering base of the country's sugar industry), in the construction of an auto repair plant, factories to manufacture metal structures and television and radio sets, and road building machinery repair facilities. Construction work went on at a textile mill and a cotton spinning mill, while seven textile factories were modernized. Diverse aid was given to developing the sugar industry, and equipment was delivered for the running of irrigating facilities. Work continued on the reconstruction of the Havana-Santiago de Cuba railway line 870 km long and the building of a container berth in the port of Havana. Communication facilities were being provided. Geological prospecting was being carried out. Equipment was installed in 12 training centers.

In Mongolia, complete plant was delivered for 136 industrial, transport, agricultural, cultural, service and other projects. Thermal power stations were being expanded in Ulaan Baatar and Choybalsan, construction carried out of the Baganuur open-cast mine with a capacity of 2 million tons of coal a year and capacities at the Sharyn Gol open-cast coal pit were being increased from 1.4 million to 2 million tons. Work went ahead successfully on the construction of the largest cooperation project--the Erdenet copper-molybdenum mining and dressing works with an output of 16 million tons a year; its first stage of 4 million tons capacity went into operation in 1978. Equipment continued to be delivered for mines extracting fluorspar, which is a major export item of the Mongolian People's Republic. Residential buildings with cultural and service blocks, a house-building plant, a ceramic ware shop and two brickyards were under construction. A factory for the primary processing of raw skins and hides came on stream, and work went on to build spinning and knitted goods factories in Ulaan Baatar and a rug-making factory at Erdenet. A state pedigree sheep farm called Ondorhan was set up, complete with livestock premises, dairy units, tractor repair shops, and drilled and dug wells.

In Poland, construction was going on of a second stage of the Katowice iron and steel plant with a view to increasing its capacity from 4.5 million to 9 million tons of steel a year. December 1979 saw the completion of a 197 km railway line (1520 mm gauge) from the Soviet-Polish border to that works. It will be transporting iron ore from the USSR to Poland, and sulfur, coal and engineering and farm products from Poland to the USSR. At the Kozenice thermal power station, the No 2 turbine unit of 500 megawatts went into operation (the first turbine set has been in service since 1978), which greatly reduced the unmet demand for electricity in the country. Equipment continued to be supplied for gas industry projects. A large-panel house-building plant was commissioned. A grain elevator and seven greenhouse enterprises with a total area of 42 hectares went into operation.

In Romania, equipment deliveries were completed for the No 6, 210 megawatt generating unit at the country's largest thermal power station Deva, built with Soviet technical assistance. Generating units of 50,000 kilowatts each were being installed at the Brazi-II and Borzesti-II thermal power stations. Equipment was being supplied for the cold rolling tandem mill 1400

at the iron and steel works at Galat, a pipe rolling mill at the iron and steel plant at Zaleu, a pipe welding mill at the iron and steel mill at Zimnichi, and for two caustic soda factories and a viscose cellulose plant. On stream is a large-panel house-building plant Friendship in Bucharest--a gift from the Soviet to the Romanian people to eliminate the aftermath of the 1977 earthquake; the plant can build 2350 apartments a year (residential building of increased earthquake resistance.)

In Czechoslovakia, the atomic power station Bohunice with an output of 1760 megawatts was under construction; its first unit of 440 megawatts was put into operation in 1978. Work continued to start production and deliveries from Czechoslovakia of equipment (by way of cooperation) for atomic power stations being built in the USSR and other CEMA member-countries. Under re-export arrangements Czechoslovakia continued to deliver rolling and other equipment for iron and steel plants being built with Soviet technical assistance in Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, and India. Help was provided in constructing new lines of the Prague underground service. Production started at pulp and paper mills at Zilina and Vranov.

In Yugoslavia, the USSR continued to help to build six thermal power stations with an aggregate capacity of more than 1200 megawatts; equipment was delivered for four of them. At the Zagreb heat and power station a 120 megawatt generating set was put into service--the largest and most modern heat and power unit in the country. The Gatsko mine came into operation, with an output of 2 million tons of lignite a year. Equipment deliveries were completed for an oil refinery with a capacity of 2.5 million tons of oil and a combined installation for electric desalination and atmospheric-vacuum distillation of 2 million tons of oil. Equipment for oil atmospheric distillation was being supplied for an oil processing plant to produce 3 million tons a year at Pancevo. The Birac plant to produce 600,000 tons of alumina a year, which was built on a compensations basis, was commissioned with Soviet assistance. The first 300,000 tons of alumina were supplied to the USSR. A sintering and blast furnace complex for 1,050,000 tons of pig iron a year was brought into operation at the Zenica iron and steel works. Last batches of complete plant were delivered for a continuous steel casting shop with an output of up to 800,000 tons of slabs and for an aluminum factory that will turn out 50,000 tons of aluminum a year. Large quantities of equipment were supplied for an iron and steel plant at Smederevo, and construction continued of the Omarsko iron ore mine with an annual output of 9.3 million tons.

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the country's largest electric power station, built with Soviet assistance at Pukchong, was being enlarged from 1200 to 1600 megawatts. A 150-megawatt heat and power station continued to be built at Chongjin. It will deliver power to the Kim Chak iron and steel works, whose capacities are being increased to 2.4 million tons of steel a year. Special attention was paid to the construction of a sheet cold rolling shop. Equipment was fully delivered for an aluminum factory at Pukchong and an ammonia plant at Hwannon. Building work proceeded on

plants for making vehicle batteries and micro-motors (these plants are being built on a compensation basis), on a bearing plant and a diesel locomotive repair facility.

In Laos, an oil depot was placed in operation in Vientiane, equipment deliveries completed for an auto repair shop, and work begun on a 150-bed hospital and a farm machine repair facility. A tin producing concern was reopened at Phontious, enabling Laos to increase its foreign exchange earnings.

Planning and surveying work was conducted in an active way on new cooperation projects in agriculture, transport, communications, education and the health services. Geological prospecting was carried out.

Products of many enterprises and projects built with the technical assistance of the USSR in the fraternal countries are exported in large quantities to the Soviet Union, also as compensation for the help rendered. In 1979 such exports reached more than R3600 million or 17 percent of all Soviet imports from the socialist countries. Last year, for example, the USSR received from such enterprises the following goods: from Bulgaria--power trucks, telphers, vineyard tractors, mowers, rolled metal, calcined soda, motor tires, medicines and some other commodities; from Hungary--alumina and rolling bearings; from Poland--rolled steel, engineering products and sulfur; from Romania--oil pipes and calcined and caustic soda; from Mongolia--copper and molybdenum concentrate, fuorspar, wool, textiles and woolen blankets; from Cuba--raw sugar and nickel concentrate; from Vietnam--tin, coffee, tea, citrus fruit and pineapples; from Yugoslavia--alumina, lead and zinc; from democratic Korea--steel, zinc, rolled zinc, and cement.

On a Lasting Mutually Advantageous Basis

The economic and technical assistance given by the USSR to the developing countries helps them to create and develop their national economies and reduce their dependence upon the imperialist monopolies.

In Algeria, the iron and steel works at El Hadjar was being expanded from 0.41 million tons to 2 million tons of steel per year. A coking battery of 600,000 tons annual capacity started operation there, and preparations were in progress to put a blast-furnace and converter shops into operation. Final deliveries of equipment were made for a mining and metallurgical institute of Annaba, deliveries continued for 34 centers for training skilled workers, and boreholes were drilled for water. In the development of its minerals and raw materials Algeria largely draws on Soviet geological experience. Last year Soviet geologists helped to discover a large copper deposit. Assistance was rendered in the development of the oil and gas industry by looking for new deposits, developing them, providing them with support facilities, and by boring wells.

Angola was helped to irrigate up to 400 hectares of land and to turn the water on pastures over an area of 25,000 hectares; experiments were conducted in sowing cotton and wheat. Help was given to promote fisheries.

An industrial teaching center at Uambo, three vocational schools for farm machine operators and one vocational school for auto mechanics were opened. Assistance was rendered in restoring and operating a shipyard at Lobito, restoring railway and motor bridges and organizing geological prospecting.

In Afghanistan, the Jarquduk gas fields and two urban electric networks were built. Work was carried out to expand the thermal power station at the nitrogenous fertilizer plant at Mazar-i Sharif, geological prospecting for gas, oil and solid minerals continued, and work proceeded on the construction of a bridge across the Amu Darya River, a water intake dam on the Kokcha River, a power transmission line between the Naglu hydroelectric power station and Jalalabad, an olive cannery, a mechanical bakery, and a set of food enterprises. Help was provided for the health services, farm pest and malaria control, veterinary services and town building. Agreements were signed to render technical assistance to Afghanistan in the building of a mining and dressing mill based on the Ainak copper ore deposit, of a plant to process up to 500,000 tons of oil a year and of power installations, as well as in providing oil fields with roads and transport facilities, in setting up machine and tractor stations and in training Afghan national personnel.

In India, capacities continued to be increased at the Bokaro and Bhilai iron and steel works to 4 million tons of steel a year. The Bhilai iron and steel works, whose capacity is 2.5 million tons now, is the largest and most advanced enterprise in the Indian iron and steel industry. In the period that it has been in operation it has produced 33.4 million tons of steel and over 27 million tons of rolled steel. Its products are used both within the country and abroad. Construction was being completed of an aluminum factory at Korba (100,000 tons a year) and an oil refinery at Mathura (6 million tons a year). Construction continued of the underground railway in Calcutta and of a tropospheric communication link between India to build an iron and steel works at Vishakhapatnam with a capacity of 3 million tons of steel a year, its first stage being 1.2 million tons. The enterprises built with Soviet assistance produce 40 percent of India's steel, 77 percent of the oil, 30 percent of the refined oil, some 20 percent of the power, and 15 percent of the aluminum. Production cooperation was developing with engineering plants built with the technical assistance of the USSR.

In Iraq, the projects brought into operation included the hydroelectric power station Dukan with a capacity of 400 megawatts, three generating sets of 210 megawatts each at the 840-megawatt thermal power station at Nasiriya, two grain elevators, two training centers in Basra for the engineering, chemical and petrochemical industries, first priority installations for the flooding system on the Rumaila fields, a 135 km gas pipeline between Northern Rumaila and the Nasiriya thermal power station, and the Luhais oil fields with an output of 2.5 million tons a year. Equipment deliveries were completed for a cement works at Samawa (600,000 tons a year). These projects are very important for the Iraqi economy. As a result of new generating sets commissioned at the hydroelectric and thermal power stations,

the installed capacity of these stations increased by 40 percent. Construction work continued on a hydroelectric scheme on the Euphrates River in the Haditha area with a 570 megawatt hydroelectric power station, a 65 km connecting canal from Lake Tharthar to the Tigris River, a water-raising dam on the Euphrates River in the area of Felluji with a 63 km trunk canal, and the head section of a 37 km trunk canal on the Kirkuk Adheim massif.

In Iran, the first 315 megawatt generating unit started operation on the largest cooperation project--the Ramin thermal power station at Ahwaz with a total capacity of 1260 megawatts. Building and assembly work went on to enlarge an iron and steel works in Isfahan from 0.5 million to 1.9 million tons of steel a year. Complete plant continued to be supplied for coal industry enterprises, and assistance given in the construction of house-building plants, and grain elevators and in the electrification of the Julfa-Tabriz railway.

In Libya two power transmission lines with a total length of 190 km entered service, construction continued of an atomic research center at Tajura, oil drilling began at the Sarir fields and construction started of a 570 km gas pipeline from Marsa el brega to Misurata; soil maps were compiled and geobotanical studies conducted.

Mozambique was helped in the elaboration of a master plan for water conservancy and comprehensive farm use projects based on the Limpopo River. Vocational schools opened in three cities.

In the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, trunk canals and distributors continued to be built over an area of 8000 hectares, boreholes were drilled and provided with necessary facilities for land irrigation, a plan was drawn up for using the water resources of the Hadramaut Valley, the dams Ra's al-Wadi and Beizaj were being modernised to irrigate 3000 hectares, and lands were developed by supplying farm machines and transport vehicles. A fish cannery was commissioned at Mukalla. Construction started of a fishing port in Aden, and preparatory work was carried out for a thermal power station of 110,000 kilowatt capacity.

In Nigeria a contract was signed on the building of an iron and steel works at Ajaokuta the first stage of which will have a capacity of 1.3 million tons of steel a year. Plans exist to expand its production to 2.6 million tons and then to 5 million tons a year. Work was under way to set up a training center for steel workers. Construction was being completed of two systems of oil product pipelines 904 km long and five pumping stations. A 351 km stretch with three pumping stations is already in operation.

In Syria, two power transmission lines came into operation--between As-Saura and Deir ez Zor (193 km) and between Damascus and the border with Jordan (125 km). The Soviet Union helped to build a total of 1675 km of 220-kilovolt power transmission lines. Assistance continued to be given in the operation of a hydroelectric power station on the Euphrates River (800 megawatts), which in 1979 generated 73 percent of all electricity in the country.

Continued assistance was provided in developing the oil industry; five more oil deposits were discovered last year. Irrigation construction and land development continued over an area of 17,000 hectares on the Meskena massif of the Euphrates hydro-scheme; a unified pumping station was set in service there to irrigate 21,000 hectares. Help was provided in building railway lines and installations of the Homs railway juncture. Work went on to complete the construction of the Latakia-Qamishli railway line.

In Turkey, all installations of an iron and steel works in Iskenderun with an annual capacity of 1 million tons of steel were placed in operation, and large quantities of equipment were being supplied to expand the plant to 2.2 million tons a year. An aluminum factory at Seydisehir was made fully operational. Work continued to build a dam and a reservoir on the border river Akhuryan (Arpa-Chai) and a hydrogen peroxide factory at Bandirma.

Technical assistance was also rendered to help in the construction of a number of major projects in other developing countries. Among these were diesel-powered electric stations (Guinea-Bissau), a radio station in Antananarivo (Madagascar), a cement factory at Bajil (Yemen Arab Republic), iron and steel plants with a capacity of 1.1 million tons of steel a year in Karachi (Pakistan) and Oruwela (Sri Lanka), an iron and steel works at Helwan and an aluminum factory at Nag Hammadi (Egypt), dams on the Djoumin and Rezala Rivers, a national technical institute (Tunisia) and others.

Our state has no share in profits made by enterprises built with its assistance, nor seeks any economic privileges or concessions. The Soviet Union offers, on the other hand, a very large market for the output of young industries of many developing countries. From these countries, in exchange for complete plant, our country gets their traditional exports, including raw materials, products of the light and food industries and of tropical agriculture. In 1979, the USSR imported about R670 million worth of output from the industrial enterprises constructed with its help, which was 22 percent of all its imports from the developing countries. Afghanistan, for example, repays Soviet credits by delivering gas (2,100 million cubic meters in 1979), citrus fruit and olives grown by state-operated farms built with Soviet assistance. From cooperation projects in India we buy pig iron, rolled metals, surgical instruments, and metallurgical equipment; with sums that are paid us for the assistance rendered we buy in India tea, pepper, spices, cashew nuts, jute articles, raw hides and other commodities which make between 80 and 100 percent of their quantities imported by the USSR. Iraq makes repayments in oil, Iran in gas, Guinea in bauxites, Libya and Nigeria in freely convertible currency.

The steady growth of the USSR's economic potential increases possibilities for cooperation between our country and foreign states on a long-term and mutually advantageous basis.

CSO: 1825

TRADE WITH LDC'S

BRIEFS

TRUCK, CAR EXPORTS--This year the Moscow Central Office of Avtoeksport will deliver 342 diesel trucks and 100 Lada cars with a total value of around \$15 million to Mozambique. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 7]

TRADE WITH SINGAPORE--The Singapore Trading company Chandulal Doshi has ordered ball and roller bearings of various types valued at R500,000 from the Moscow Central Office of Stankoimport, with delivery scheduled for this year. The company had purchased bearings for R400,000 last year for the first time from the Soviet Union. [Text] [Bonn DIE WIRTSCHAFT DES OSTBLOCKS in German 28 Mar 80 p 7]

CSO: 1826

END

SELECTIVE LIST OF JPRS SERIAL REPORTS

USSR SERIAL REPORTS (GENERAL)

USSR REPORT: Agriculture
USSR REPORT: Economic Affairs
USSR REPORT: Construction and Equipment
USSR REPORT: Military Affairs
USSR REPORT: Political and Sociological Affairs
USSR REPORT: Energy
USSR REPORT: International Economic Relations
USSR REPORT: Consumer Goods and Domestic Trade
USSR REPORT: Human Resources
USSR REPORT: Transportation
USSR REPORT: Translations from KOMMUNIST*
USSR REPORT: PROBLEMS OF THE FAR EAST*
USSR REPORT: SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES*
USSR REPORT: USA: ECONOMICS, POLITICS, IDEOLOGY*

USSR SERIAL REPORTS (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL)

USSR REPORT: Life Sciences: Biomedical and Behavioral Sciences
USSR REPORT: Life Sciences: Effects of Nonionizing Electromagnetic Radiation
USSR REPORT: Life Sciences: Agrotechnology and Food Resources
USSR REPORT: Chemistry
USSR REPORT: Cybernetics, Computers and Automation Technology
USSR REPORT: Electronics and Electrical Engineering
USSR REPORT: Engineering and Equipment
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USSR REPORT: Materials Science and Metallurgy
USSR REPORT: Physics and Mathematics
USSR REPORT: SPACE BIOLOGY AND AEROSPACE MEDICINE*

WORLDWIDE SERIAL REPORTS

WORLDWIDE REPORT: Environmental Quality
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Epidemiology
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Law of the Sea
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Nuclear Development and Proliferation
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Telecommunications Policy, Research and Development

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